

REMARKS

This paper is responsive to the Office Action dated September 21, 2004 in which claims 1-5 and 12-15 are rejected and claims 6-11 are objected to. In this response, claims 1, 5, and 13-15 have been canceled without prejudice, claims 3, 6, and 12 are currently amended, and claims 4 and 7-11 are original. Claims 2-4 and 6-12 are pending in this application.

Changes to the Claims:

Claims 2 and 6 have been rewritten in independent form. For both claims 2 and 6, the text “to complete said joining together of said first and second mirror panels into said roof mirror assembly” has been removed. Claims 3 and 12 have been amended to depend from claim 2 instead of claim 1. No new matter has been added.

Changes to the Specification:

Paragraph [0001] has been amended in response to paragraph 11, part (A) of the Office Action. Paragraph 11, part (B) of the Office Action indicates that the specification, at page 7, lines 9-10 (which is in paragraph [0045]) should be amended to change numeral “126” to “106” and numeral “136” to “116.” Applicant notes that specification paragraph [0045] is correct and that the drawings have been amended to match the specification as filed. Accordingly, Applicant contends that the objection to the specification in 11 (B) has been overcome by the proposed amendments to FIGS. 9, 11, and 12. Accordingly, paragraph [0045] has not been amended in this paper.

Paragraph [0044.1] has been added in response to the objection to the specification in paragraph 10 of the Office Action. Consistent with the requirement in the Office Action, antecedent basis is provided for the “protruding element” and for the first and second receiving surfaces thereof. Support for the content of paragraph [0044.1] may be found in FIGS. 9, 10 and 11 of this application and of the parent application, as filed. No new matter has been added.

Changes to the Drawings:

An amendment has been proposed to FIG. 4B which changes reference numeral 26 to reference numeral 24. This proposed amendment is supported in paragraph [0026] of the specification as filed. No new matter has been added.

An amendment is proposed to FIG. 9 which adds reference numeral 170 corresponding to the “protruding element” of panel 112. This change to FIG. 9 is proposed based on the addition of

specification paragraph [0044.1] which is responsive to the objection in paragraph 10 of the Office Action. Also in FIG. 9, one instance of the numeral “116” has been deleted, the deletion shown in red ink.

Reference numerals 126 and 136 have been added to FIGS. 9, 11, and 12 in the replacement sheets submitted with this response. Support for this change can be found in paragraph [0045] of the specification. No new matter has been added. Based on the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that the proposed drawing amendments be entered.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph:

Claims 2, 5, and 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Claims 5 and 13-15 have been canceled without prejudice and are therefore not discussed further herein. With regard to claim 2, the Office Action asserts that the specification as filed does not provide support for the mounting block(s) being attached to first and second back portions of said mirror panels by an adhesive material. Applicant respectfully traverses the outstanding rejection with respect to claim 2.

Paragraph [0004] of Applicant’s specification refers to “adhesives which join members of the retroreflector.” (Emphasis added). Paragraph [0046] of Applicant’s specification recites, in part, “the back surfaces of panels 102 and 112 that are adhered to mounting blocks 140 and 160” (Emphasis added). The term “adhered” is defined as follows:

“to hold fast or stick by or as if by gluing, suction, grasping, or fusing.”

Merriam Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary, Tenth Edition, page 14, copyright 2001. A copy of this definition is attached hereto as Exhibit A. Applicant contends that since the term “adhered” includes gluing, or connecting with glue, the specification supports the use of the term “adhesive material” in the claims.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b):

Claims 1, 2, and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Bleier (U.S. Patent No.5,122,901 hereafter “Bleier”). “A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference.” *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987); M.P.E.P. § 2131. Claim 1 has been canceled without prejudice and is therefore not discussed

further in this section. Applicant respectfully contends that Bleier does not describe all the limitations of claims 2 and 12.

Claim 2 recites the limitation “wherein said back portions extend along said respective mirror panels in orientations that do not meet or intersect with said reflective surfaces.” (Emphasis added). Applicant notes that the Office Action asserts the equivalency of non-reflecting faces 58 of Bleier to the “back portions” of claim 2. FIG. 2 provides a cross-sectional view of the retroreflector of Bleier. The related specification text recites that “non-reflecting face 58 of each of plates 55 is chamfered to angularly intersect reflecting faces 57.” See col. 3, lines 35-37 (emphasis added). The foregoing description from Bleier contradicts the above-quoted limitation of claim 2, and Bleier therefore does not describe all the elements of claim 2.

In addition, the mirror panels of the cited Bleier reference are not attached to receptacle 25 along surfaces 58 thereof by adhesive material 73, as is stated by the examiner. First, adhesive material 73 is described in Bleier as being an adhesive strip 73 (i.e., tape) which is simply used to seal the notch 69 so that adhesive material 75 does not leak through from cavity 71 to reflective surfaces of the mirror panels. See FIG. 6, and column 4, lines 24-29. Further, the Bleier reference is distinctly different from the present invention as claimed in claim 2, since claim 2 calls for the mounting block to be attached “to both said first and second back portions of said mirror panels, wherein said back portions extend along said respective mirror panels in orientations that do not intersect with said reflective surfaces.” However, as is expressly stated in Bleier at column 5, lines 6-13, adhesive material 75 is located in cavity 71, and cavity 71 is defined by sides 59, 61, and groove 35 -- nowhere is side 58 (the back portion) said to be attached (adhered) to receptacle 25, and sides 59 and 61 of the assembly of the Bleier reference (the sides which are so attached) intersect with the reflective surfaces.

Accordingly, claim 2 is patentable over Bleier under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) for a variety of reasons. Claim 12 depends from claim 2 and is patentable over Bleier for the same reasons as claim 2. Thus, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Objection to the Drawings:

In paragraph 12 of the Office Action, the drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. § 1.84(p)(5) for lacking illustration of reference numerals 126 and 136, recited on page 7, lines 9-10 of the specification. The Office Action requires that the drawings be corrected to illustrate these

reference numerals. Replacement sheets for FIGS. 9, 11, and 12 accompany this response in which reference numerals 126 and 136 have been added to the drawings. No new matter has been entered. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to the drawings be reconsidered.

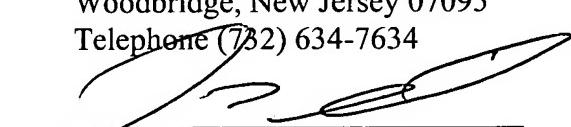
Conclusion:

The Examiner is thanked for the indication of allowable content in claims 6-11. In addition, claim 2 now being allowable, all claims dependent therefrom are also allowable, i.e., claims 3, 4 and 12. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance in view of the above remarks and amendments.

Also, please find enclosed herewith a petition and fee for 1-month extension of time. The Examiner is authorized to deduct additional fees believed due from, or credit any overpayments to our Deposit Account No. 11-0223.

Respectfully submitted,

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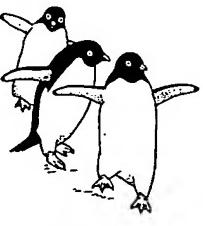
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14 add up • adjournment

body or toward the axis of an extremity 2 : a muscle that closes the valves of a bivalve mollusk
add up vt (1850) 1 a : to come to the expected total <the bill doesn't add up> b : to form an intelligible pattern : make sense *(her story just doesn't add up)* 2 a : AMOUNT 1b — used with to <the play adds up to a lot of laughs> b : to amount to a lot *(just a little each time, but it all adds up)* ~ vi : to form an opinion of *(added him up at a glance)*
-ade n suff [ME, fr. MF, fr. OProv -ada, fr. LL -ata, fr. L, fem. of -atus -ate] 1 : act : action *(blockade)* 2 : product; esp : sweet drink *(lime-ade)*

Adélie penguin \ə-'dē-lē-'n [Adélie Coast, Antarctica] (1907) : a small antarctic penguin (*Pygoscelis adeliae*) — called also *Adélie*



Adélie penguin

-adelphous adj comb form [prob. fr. NL *-adelphus*, fr. Gk *adelphos* brother, fr. *ha-*, *a-* together (akin to *horns* same) + *delphys* womb — more at SAME, DOLPHIN] : having (such or so many) stamens fascicles *(monadelphous)*

aden- or aden- comb form [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *aden-*, *adén-*: akin to L *inguinus* groin]

: gland (*adenine*) : adenoid (*adenovirus*)

ad-e-nine \ə-dē'-nē' n [ISV, fr. its presence in glandular tissue] (1885) : a purine base $C_5H_5N_5$ that codes hereditary information in the genetic code in DNA and RNA — compare CYTOSINE, GUANINE, THYMINE, URACIL

ad-e-nitis \ə-dē-nīt'is n [NL] (ca. 1848) : inflammation of a gland; esp : LYMPHADENITIS

ad-e-no-car-ci-no-ma \ə-dē-nō-'kār-sē-nō-'mō-mā n [NL] (ca. 1889) : a malignant tumor originating in glandular epithelium — **ad-e-no-carci-no-ma-tous** \ə-mă-tōz \adj

ad-e-no-hy-poph-y-sis \ə-hī-pă-fă-sōz \ n, pl -y-ses \fă-sĕz \ [NL] (1935) : the anterior pituitary gland — **ad-e-no-hy-poph-y-seal** \ə-hī-pă-fă-sē-əl \ or **ad-e-no-hy-po-physial** \ə-hī-pă-fī-zē-əl \ adj

ad-e-noid \ə-dē-noid' n [Gk *adenoëides* glandular, fr. *aden-*] (ca. 1890) : an enlarged mass of lymphoid tissue at the back of the pharynx characteristically obstructing breathing — usu. used in pl.

adenoid adj (ca. 1947) 1 : of or relating to the adenoids 2 : relating to, affected with, or associated with abnormally enlarged adenoids *(a severe ~ condition)* *(~ facies)*

ad-e-nol-dal \ə-dē-nōl-dāl' adj (1919) : exhibiting the characteristics (as snoring, mouth breathing, and voice nasality) of one affected with abnormally enlarged adenoids : ADENOID *(an ~ tenor)* — not usu. used technically

ad-e-no-ma \ə-dē-nō-'mō-mā \ n, pl -mas also -ma-ta \ [NL *adenomat-*, *adenoma*] (1870) : a benign tumor of a glandular structure or of glandular origin — **ad-e-no-ma-tous** \ə-mă-tōz \ adj

aden-o-sine \ə-de-nō-sēn, -sēn \ [ISV, blend of *adenine* and *ribose*] (ca. 1909) : a nucleoside $C_{10}H_{13}N_5O_4$ that is a constituent of RNA yielding adenine and ribose on hydrolysis

adenosine diphosphate n (1938) : ADP

adenosine monophosphate \ə-mă-nō-'făs-, făt, -mōō' n (1950) : AMP

adenosine 3',5'-monophosphate \ə-thrē-'fiv' \ (1970) : CYCLIC AMP

adenosine tri-phosphatase \ə-trī-'făs-fă-tăs, -tăz \ n (1943) : ATPase

adenosine tri-phosphate \ə-trī-'făs-, făt \ n (1938) : ATP

ad-e-novi-rus \ə-dē-nō-vē-rüs \ n (1956) : any of a family (Adenoviridae) of DNA viruses orig. identified in human adenoid tissue, causing respiratory diseases (as catarrh), and including some capable of inducing malignant tumors in experimental animals — **ad-e-no-vi-ral** \ə-räl \ adj

ad-e-nyl-ate cy-clase \ə-de-nōl-ät'-si-kłäz, -ät-, -kläz; \ə-dē-nōl-i-lät-, -lät \ n (1968) : an enzyme that catalyzes the formation of cyclic AMP from ATP

ad-e-nyl cyclase \ə-dē-nōl-il-äz \ n [*adenine* + -yl] (1968) : ADENYLYL CYCLASE

ad-e-nyl-ic acid \ə-dē-nōl-i-lik' \ n (1894) : AMP

ad-ept \ə-dept, \ə-dept, \ə-'dept, \ə-'dept, \ə-'n [NL *addeptus* alchemist who has attained the knowledge of how to change base metals into gold, fr. L, pp. of *adipisci* to attain, fr. *ad-* + *ipisci* to reach — more at APT] (1709) : a highly skilled or well-trained individual : EXPERT *(an ~ at chess)*

ad-ept \ə-dept also \ə-'dept, \ə-'dept \ adj (ca. 1691) : thoroughly proficient : EXPERT *syn see PROFICIENT* — **ad-ept-ly** \ə-dep-(t)ē, \ə-'adv — **ad-eptness** \ə-dep(t)-nas \ n

ad-equa-cy \ə-di-kwā-sē \ n, pl -cies (1808) : the quality or state of being adequate

ad-equate \ə-kwāt \ adj [L *adaequare*, pp. of *adaequare* to make equal, fr. *ad-* + *aequare* to equal — more at EQUABLE] (ca. 1617) 1 : sufficient for a specific requirement *(~ taxation of goods)*; also : barely sufficient or satisfactory *(her first performance was merely ~)* 2 : lawfully and reasonably sufficient *syn see SUFFICIENT* — **ad-equate-ly** adj — **ad-equate-ness** n

ad-eun-dem \ə-dē-'ən-däm \ or **ad eundem** **gra-dum** \ə-grā-däm \ adv or adj [NL *ad eundem gradum*] (1711) : to, in, or of the same rank — used esp. of the honorary granting of academic standing or a degree by a university to one whose actual work was done elsewhere...

à deux \ə-dō \ n [F] (1886) : involving two people esp. in private *(a cozy evening à deux)*

à deux adv (1927) : privately or intimately with only two present *(dined à deux)*

ad-here \ə-hēr', \ə-'hēr \ vb **ad-hered**; **ad-her-ing** [MF or L; MF *adhérer*, fr. L *adhaerēre*, fr. *ad-* + *haerēre* to stick] vt (1536) 1 : to give support or maintain loyalty 2 obs : ACCORD 3 : to hold fast or stick by or as if by gluing, suction, grasping, or fusing 4 : to bind oneself to observance ~ vi : to cause to stick fast *syn see STICK*

ad-her-ence \ə-hir-ənț \ n (1531) 1 : the act, action, or quality of adhering 2 : steady or faithful attachment : FIDELITY

ad-her-ent \ə-hir-ənt, \ə-'hēr-ənt \ adj [ME, fr. MF or L; MF *adhérent*, fr. L *adhaerēt-*, *adhaerēt*, pp. of *adhaerēre*] (15c) 1 : able or tending to adhere 2 : connected or associated with esp. by contract 3 : ADNATE — **ad-her-ent-ly** adv

adherent n (15c) : one that adheres: as a : a follower of a leader, party, or profession b : a believer in or advocate esp. of a particular idea or church *syn see FOLLOWER*

ad-he-sion \əd-'hē-zhōn, \əd-'hē-zhōn \ n [F or L; F *adhésion*, fr. L *adhæsio*, fr. *adhaerēre*] (1624) 1 : steady or firm attachment : ADHERENCE 2 : the action or state of adhering 3 : the abnormal union of separate tissue surfaces by new fibrous tissue resulting from an inflammatory process; also : the newly formed uniting tissue 4 : agreement to join *(~ of all nations to a copyright convention)* 5 : the molecular attraction exerted between the surfaces of bodies in contact — **ad-he-sion-al** \ə-hēzh-nəl, \ə-hē-zhōn \ adj

ad-he-sive \ə-hē-siv, \ə-hē-siv \ adj (1670) 1 : tending to remain in association or memory 2 : tending to adhere or cause adherence 3 : prepared for adhering : **ad-he-sive-ly** adv — **ad-he-sive-ness** n

adhesive n (1912) 1 : an adhesive substance (as glue or cement) 2 : a postage stamp with a gummed back

adhesive binding n (1955) : PERFECT BINDING — **ad-he-sive-bound** \ə-bound \ adj

adhesive tape n (1927) : tape coated on one side with an adhesive mixture; esp : one used for covering wounds

ad hoc \əd-'hōk, \əd-'hōk \ adv [L, for this] (1659) : for the particular end or case at hand without consideration of wider application

ad hoc adj (1879) 1 a : concerned with a particular end or purpose *(an ad hoc investigating committee)* b : formed or used for specific or immediate problems or needs *(ad hoc solutions)* 2 : fashioned from whatever is immediately available : IMPROVISED *(large ad hoc parades and demonstrations — Nat Hentoff)*

ad hominem \əd-hō-mē-nəm \ adj (1958) 1 : appealing to feelings or prejudices rather than intellect 2 : marked by an attack on an opponent's character rather than by an answer to the contentions made

ad hominem adv (1962) : in an ad hominem manner *(was arguing ad hominem)*

adi-a-bat-ic \ə-dē-ə-băt-ik, \ə-dē-ə-băt-ik \ adj [Gk *adiabatos* impassable, fr. *ad-* + *diabatos* passable, fr. *diabainein* to go across, fr. *dia-* + *bainēin* to go — more at COME] (1870) : occurring without loss or gain of heat *(~ expansion of a body of air)* — **adi-a-bat-ic-ally** \ə-tik-(ə-)lē \ adj

adi-e-nū \ə-dē-nū, \ə-'dē-nū \ adj \ə-dē-nū \ n [ME, fr. L *ad* + *Dieu* God, fr. L *Deus* — more at DEITY] (14c) : FAREWELL — often used interjectionally

ad in-fi-nitum \əd-in-fi-nit'üm \ adj \əd-in-fi-nit'üm \ adv or adj [L] (1610) : without end or limit

ad in-ter-im \əd-in-tə-rōm, \ə-rōm \ adj also \əd-'ə-adv \ adv [L] (1787) : for the intervening time : TEMPORAL

ad interim adj (1818) : made or serving ad interim

ad-i-o-s \ə-dē-ōz \ n, \ə-'dē-ōz \ n [Sp *adiós*, fr. a (fr. L *ad*) + *Dios* God, fr. L *Deus*] (1837) — used to express farewell

adip- or adip-o- comb form [L *adip-*, *adeps*, prob. fr. Gk *aleipa* fat, oil, fr. *aleiphein* to rub with oil — more at ALIPHATIC] : fat (*adipocyte*)

adip-o-cy-ate \ə-'dī-pō-śē-ət \ [ISV] (1877) : a white crystalline dicarboxylic acid $C_6H_{10}O_4$ formed by oxidation of various fats and also made synthetically for use esp. in the manufacture of nylon

ad-i-po-cell \ə-'dī-pō-sēl \ n [1959] : a fat cell

ad-i-pose \ə-dē-pōz \ adj [NL *adipos*, fr. L *adip-*, *adeps*] (1743) : of or relating to animal fat; broadly : FAT — **ad-i-pos-i-ty** \ə-dē-pōz-tē \ n

adipose tissue n (1854) : connective tissue in which fat is stored and which has the cells distended by droplets of fat

ad-it \ə-dīt \ n [L *aditus* approach, fr. *adire* to go to, fr. *ad-* + *ire* to go — more at ISSUE] (1602) : a nearly horizontal passage from the surface in a mine

ad-ja-cen-cy \ə-jā-sē-nē \ n, pl -cies (1646) 1 : something that is adjacent 2 : the quality or state of being adjacent : CONTIGUITY

ad-ja-cent \ə-jā-sēnt \ adj [ME, fr. MF or L; MF, fr. L *adjacent*, *adjacens*, pp. of *adjacere* to lie near, fr. *ad-* + *jacere* to lie; akin to L *jacere* to throw — more at JET] (15c) 1 a : not distant : NEARBY *(the city and ~ suburbs)* b : having a common endpoint or border *(~ lots)* *(~ sides of a triangle)* c : immediately preceding or following 2 of two angles : having the vertex and one side in common — **ad-ja-cent-ly** adv

syn ADJACENT, ADJOINING, CONTIGUOUS, JUXTAPOSED mean being in close proximity. **ADJACENT** may or may not imply contact but always implies absence of anything of the same kind in between *(a house with an adjacent garage)*. **ADJOINING** definitely implies meeting and touching at some point or line *(had adjoining rooms at the hotel)*. **CONTIGUOUS** implies having contact on all or most of one side *(offices in all 48 contiguous states)*. **JUXTAPOSED** means placed side by side esp. so as to permit comparison and contrast *(a skyscraper juxtaposed to a church)*.

ad-jecti-til \əd-jēk-tē-tēl \ adj (1797) 1 : ADJECTIVE 2 : characterized by the use of adjectives — **ad-jecti-til-ly** \ə-'jēk-tē-lē \ adv

ad-jecti-ve \ə-'jēk-tiv \ adj [L *adjectivus*, fr. L *adjectus*, pp. of *adjecere* to throw — more at JET] (14c) 1 : of, relating to, or functioning as an adjective *(an ~ clause)* 2 : not standing by itself : DEPENDENT 3 : requiring or employing a mordant *(~ dyes)* 4 : PROCEDURAL *(~ way)* — **ad-jecti-ty-ly** \ə-'jēk-tē-tē-lē \ adv

adjective n (14c) : a word belonging to one of the major form classes in any of numerous languages and typically serving as a modifier of a noun to denote a quality of the thing named, to indicate its quantity or extent, or to specify a thing as distinct from something else

ad-joint \ə-joint \ n [ME, fr. MF *adjointre*, fr. L *adjungere*, fr. *ad-* + *jungere* to join — more at YOKE] vt (14c) 1 : to add or attach by joining 2 : to lie next to or in contact with ~ vi : to be close to or in contact with one another

ad-join-ing adj (15c) : touching or bounding at a point or line *syn see ADJACENT*

ad-joint \ə-joint \ n [F, fr. pp. of *adjointre* to adjoin] (1907) : the transpose of a matrix in which each element is replaced by its cofactor

ad-jour-n \ə-jörn \ vt [ME *ajournen*, fr. MF *ajourner*, fr. a- (fr. L *ad-*) + *jour* day — more at JOURNEY] vt (15c) : to suspend indefinitely or until a later stated time ~ vi 1 : to suspend a session indefinitely or to another time or place 2 : to move to another place

ad-jour-nment \ə-mənt \ n (1607) 1 : the act of adjourning 2 : the state or interval of being adjourned

ad-judge \ə-'jōj \ vt a fr. L *adjudicare*, fr.

s : to decide or rule judicially : RULE

pronounced to be: D

judicially in a case : ad-

ju-di-cate \ə-'jü-kāt \ cially ~ vi : to act

ad-ju-di-ca-tor \ə-'jü-

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others *syn see ADA*

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'ad libitum adj (ca. 18

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ad-mass \əd-'məs \ n .

: mass

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